

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of rating an online auction user comprising the steps of:
receiving personal information regarding the user;
based on the personal information, obtaining objective information by a Registration Server about the user from a third party; and
formulating an initial value by the Registration Server for a reliability rating based on at least the objective information.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the objective information includes a credit report.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the personal information is received from a web client.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the additional steps of:
receiving a transaction history for the user; and
modifying the reliability rating based on the transaction history.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the additional steps of:
receiving feedback about the user; and
based on the feedback, modifying the reliability rating.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the additional step of:
sharing the reliability rating with at least one auction server.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the reliability rating includes at least one of a buying limit and a selling limit.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the additional step of:
presenting to the user a rationale for why the user received the initial value.

9. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for managing auctions, the method comprising:

receiving personal data about a user;

based on the personal data, obtaining objective information by a Registration Server about the user from a third party;

rating the user using the data to form a user rating;

formulating an initial value by the Registration Server for a reliability rating based on at least the objective information for the user; and

based on the user user's reliability rating, regulating the user's access to selected auctions.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein regulating the user's access to the selected auctions includes one of denying the user access to the selected auctions and allowing the user access to the selected auctions.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[11]] 9, wherein the objective information includes a credit report.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[11]] 9, wherein the personal information is received from a web client.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[11]] 9, comprising the additional steps of:
receiving a transaction history for the user; and
modifying the user rating based on the transaction history.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[11]] 9, comprising the additional steps of:
receiving feedback about the user; and
based on the feedback, modifying the user rating.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[11]] 9, comprising the additional step of:
sharing the user rating with at least one auction server.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[11]] 9, wherein the user rating includes at least one of a buying limit and a selling limit.

18. (Original) The method of claim 9, comprising the additional step of:
presenting to the user a rationale for why the user received the user rating.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer-readable medium rating an online auction user comprising instructions for:
receiving personal information regarding the user;
based on the personal information, obtaining objective information by a Registration Server about the user from a third party; and
formulating an initial value by the Registration Server for a reliability rating based on at least the objective information.

20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the objective information includes a credit report.

21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the personal information is received from a web client.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, comprising additional instructions for:
receiving a transaction history for the user; and
modifying the reliability rating based on the transaction history.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, comprising additional instructions for:
receiving feedback about the user; and
based on the feedback, modifying the reliability rating.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, comprising additional instructions for:
sharing the reliability rating with at least one auction server.

25. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the reliability rating includes at least one of a buying limit and a selling limit.

26. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, comprising additional instructions for: presenting to the user a rationale for why the user received the initial value.

27. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for rating an online auction user comprising:
a bus system;
a memory connected to the bus system;
a processing unit including at least one processor; and
a set of instructions located within the memory,
wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the acts of:
receiving personal information regarding the user;
based on the personal information, obtaining objective information by a Registration Server about the user from a third party; and
formulating an initial value by the Registration Server for a reliability rating based on at least the objective information.

28. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the objective information includes a credit report.

29. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the personal information is received from a web client.

30. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the additional acts of:
receiving a transaction history for the user; and
modifying the reliability rating based on the transaction history.

31. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the additional acts of:
receiving feedback about the user; and
based on the feedback, modifying the reliability rating.

32. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the additional act of:
sharing the reliability rating with at least one auction server.

33. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the reliability rating includes at least one of a buying limit and a selling limit.

34. (Original) The data processing system of claim 27, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the additional act of:

presenting to the user a rationale for why the user received the initial value.